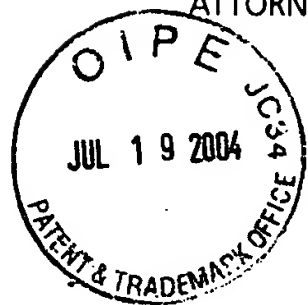


**Sterne Kessler
Goldstein Fox**
ATTORNEYS AT LAW



Robert Greene Sterne
Edward J. Kessler
Jorge A. Goldstein
David K.S. Cornwell
Robert W. Esmond
Tracy-Gene G. Durkin
Michele A. Cimbala
Michael B. Ray
Robert E. Sokohl
Eric K. Steffe
Michael Q. Lee
Steven R. Ludwig
John M. Covert
Linda E. Alcorn
Robert C. Millonig
Donald J. Featherstone
Lawrence B. Bugaisky
Michael V. Messinger

Judith U. Kim
Timothy J. Shea, Jr.
Patrick E. Garrett
Heidi L. Kraus
Albert L. Ferro*
Donald R. Banowit
Peter A. Jackman
Teresa U. Medler
Jeffrey S. Weaver
Kendrick P. Patterson
Vincent L. Capuano
Eldora Ellison Floyd
Thomas C. Fiala
Brian J. Del Buono
Virgil Lee Beaston
Kimberly N. Reddick
Theodore A. Wood
Elizabeth J. Haanes

Joseph S. Ostroff
Frank R. Cottingham
Christine M. Lhulier
Rae Lynn Prengaman
Jane Shershenovich*
George S. Bardmesser
Daniel A. Klein*
Jason D. Eisenberg
Michael D. Specht
Andrea J. Kamage
Tracy L. Muller*
LuAnne M. DeSantis
John J. Figueroa
Ann E. Summerfield
Tiera S. Coston
Aric W. Ledford*
Jessica L. Parezo
Timothy A. Doyle*

Gaby L. Longworth*
Nicole D. Dretar*
Ted J. Ebersole
Jyoti C. Iyer*
Laura A. Vogel

Registered Patent Agents*
Karen R. Markowicz
Nancy J. Leith
Helene C. Carlson
Matthew J. Dowd
Aaron L. Schwartz
Katrina Y. Pei Quach
Bryan L. Skelton
Robert A. Schwartzman
Teresa A. Colella
Jeffrey S. Lundgren
Victoria S. Rutherford

Michelle K. Holoubek
Robert H. DeSelms
Simon J. Elliott
Julie A. Heider
Mita Mukherjee
Scott M. Woodhouse

Of Counsel
Kenneth C. Bass III
Evan R. Smith
Marvin C. Guthrie

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July 19, 2004

WRITER'S DIRECT NUMBER:
(202) 772-8525

INTERNET ADDRESS:
BRIAND@SKGF.COM

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Art Unit 1634

Re: U.S. Utility Patent Application
Appl. No. 09/517,466; Filed: March 2, 2000
For: **Compositions and Methods for Use In Recombinational
Cloning of Nucleic Acids**
Inventor: HARTLEY *et al.*
Our Ref: 0942.4680003

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

1. PTO Fee Transmittal Form (PTO/SB/17);
2. PTO-2038 Credit Card Payment Form in the amount of \$420.00 to cover a two month extension of time filing fee;
3. Petition for Extension of Time Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a)(1);
4. Reply Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111; and
5. One (1) return postcard.

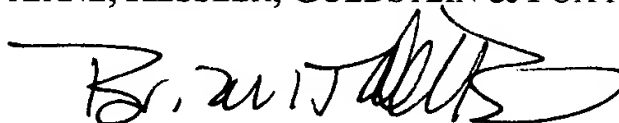
It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

Commissioner for Patents
July 19, 2004
Page 2

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brian J. Del Buono", written over the printed name.

Brian J. Del Buono
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 42,473

BJD/JKM:bac
Enclosures

288813_1.DOC